

effect before December 1, 2001. The EPA's interim approval of Illinois' program expires on December 1, 2001. In the absence of this full approval of Illinois' amended program taking effect on November 30, the federal program under 40 CFR part 71 would automatically take effect in Illinois and would remain in place until the effective date of the fully-approved state program. The EPA believes it is in the public interest for sources, the public and Illinois to avoid any gap in coverage of the state program, as such a gap could cause confusion regarding permitting obligations. Furthermore, a delay in the effective date is unnecessary because Illinois has been administering the title V permit program under an interim approval. Through this action, EPA is approving a few revisions to the existing and currently operational program. The change from the interim approved program which substantially met the part 70 requirements, to the fully approved program is relatively minor, in particular if compared to the changes between a state-established and administered program and the federal program.

C. What Is the Scope of EPA's Full Approval?

In its program submission, Illinois did not assert jurisdiction over Indian country. To date, no tribal government in Illinois has applied to EPA for approval to administer a title V program in Indian country within the state. The EPA regulations at 40 CFR part 49 govern how eligible Indian tribes may seek approval from EPA to implement a title V program on Indian reservations and in non-reservation areas over which the tribe has jurisdiction. The EPA's part 71 regulations govern the issuance of federal operating permits in Indian country. The EPA's authority to issue permits in Indian country was challenged in *Michigan v. EPA*, (D.C. Cir. No. 99-1151). On October 30, 2001, the court issued its decision in the case, vacating a provision that would have allowed EPA to treat areas over which EPA determines there is a question regarding the area's status as if it is Indian country, and remanding to EPA for further proceedings. The EPA will respond to the court's remand and explain EPA's approach for further implementation of part 71 in Indian country in a future action.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 70

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Air pollution control, Intergovernmental relations, Operating permits, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Dated: November 27, 2001.

David A. Ullrich,

Deputy Regional Administrator, Region V.

40 CFR part 70 is amended as follows:

PART 70—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 70 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

2. Appendix A to part 70 is amended by adding paragraph (b) to the entry for Illinois to read as follows:

Appendix A to Part 70—Approval Status of State and Local Operating Permits Programs

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Illinois

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(b) The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency: program revisions submitted on May 31, 2001; submittal adequately addressed the conditions of the interim approval which expires on December 1, 2001. Illinois is hereby granted final full approval effective November 30, 2001.

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[FR Doc. 01-29960 Filed 12-3-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 70

[MI; FRL-7111-6]

Clean Air Act Final Full Approval Of Operating Permit Program; Michigan

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The EPA is taking final action to fully approve the operating permit program submitted by the state of Michigan. Michigan submitted its operating permit program pursuant to subchapter V of the Clean Air Act (Act), which requires that permitting authorities develop, and submit to EPA, programs for issuing operating permits to all major stationary sources and to certain other sources within the permitting authority's jurisdiction.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 30, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the state's submittal and other supporting information used in developing the final full approval are available for inspection during normal business hours at the following location: EPA Region 5, 77

West Jackson Boulevard (AR-18)), Chicago, Illinois 60604. Please contact the person listed below to arrange a time to inspect the submittal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beth Valenziano, 77 West Jackson Boulevard (AR-18)), Chicago, Illinois 60604, (312) 886-2703, valenziano.beth@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This section provides additional information by addressing the following questions:

What is being addressed in this document?
What is involved in this final action?

What Is Being Addressed in This Document?

As required under Subchapter V of the Act, EPA has promulgated regulations that define the minimum elements of an approvable state operating permit program and the corresponding standards and procedures by which EPA will approve, oversee, or withdraw approval of state operating permit programs (see 57 FR 32250 (July 21, 1992)). These regulations are codified at 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 70. Pursuant to Subchapter V, generally known as title V, states and local permitting authorities developed, and submitted to EPA, programs for issuing operating permits to all major stationary sources and to certain other sources.

The EPA's program review occurs under section 502 of the Act and the part 70 regulations, which together outline criteria for approval or disapproval. Where a program substantially, but not fully, meets the requirements of part 70, EPA granted the program interim approval. If EPA has not fully approved a state operating permit program by the expiration of its interim approval period, EPA must establish and implement a federal operating permit program under 40 CFR part 71.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) submitted the state's title V operating permit program for approval on May 16, 1995, with supplements submitted on July 20, 1995, October 6, 1995, November 7, 1995, and January 8, 1996. The EPA promulgated interim approval of the Michigan title V program on January 10, 1997 (62 FR 1387), finding that Michigan's program substantially, but not fully, met the requirements of title V and part 70 and identifying certain deficiencies that Michigan would need to correct. The interim approved program became effective on February 10, 1997. Subsequently, EPA extended Michigan's title V interim approval period on several occasions, most recently to December 1, 2001 (65

FR 32036). On June 18, 1997, EPA granted Michigan source category limited interim approval, approving Michigan's 4-year initial permit issuance schedule (62 FR 34010). Source category limited interim approval allows EPA to approve an initial state permit issuance schedule up to 2 years past the 3-year phase in period required by 40 CFR 70.4(b)(11)(ii).

The MDEQ submitted revisions to its title V program for EPA approval on June 1, 2001, and submitted a supplemental package on September 20, 2001. The submittals included corrections to the deficiencies identified in the January 10, 1997 interim approval action, and also included additional program revisions and updates. Based on the interim approval corrections contained in the submittals, EPA proposed full approval for the Michigan title V program on October 30, 2001 (66 FR 54737). The EPA did not receive any public comments on the proposal. The EPA is taking final action to grant full approval to the Michigan title V program.

What Is Involved in This Final Action?

The EPA is granting full approval of the operating permit program submitted by Michigan based on the interim approval corrections submitted on June 1, 2001, and the supplemental package submitted on September 20, 2001. These revisions satisfactorily address the program deficiencies identified in EPA's January 10, 1997 interim approval rulemaking.

On May 22, 2000, EPA promulgated a rulemaking that extended the interim approval period of 86 operating permits programs until December 1, 2001 (65 FR 32035). The action was subsequently challenged by the Sierra Club and the New York Public Interest Research Group. In settling the litigation, EPA agreed to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** that would alert the public that they may identify and bring to EPA's attention alleged programmatic and/or implementation deficiencies in title V programs. In turn, EPA would respond to the public's allegations within specified time periods, if the comments were made within 90 days of publication of the **Federal Register** notice.

The EPA received two timely comment letters pertaining to the Michigan title V program. As stated in the **Federal Register** notice published on October 30, 2001 proposing to fully approve Michigan's operating permit program, EPA takes no action on those comments in today's action. Rather, EPA expects to respond by December 1,

2001 to timely public comments on Michigan's program and other programs that have obtained interim approval, and by April 1, 2002 to timely comments on fully approved programs. Consistent with these time frames, EPA also will publish a notice of deficiency (NOD) if EPA determines that a deficiency exists, or will notify the commenter in writing to explain the reasons for not making a finding of deficiency. An NOD will not necessarily be limited to deficiencies identified by citizens and may include any deficiencies that EPA has identified through its program oversight. Furthermore, in the future, EPA may issue an additional NOD if EPA or a citizen identifies other deficiencies. EPA Region 5 will post its response letters on the Internet at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r5/ardcorre.nsf/Title+V+Program+Comments>. EPA Region 5 includes the states of Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin. EPA will also publish a national notice of availability in the **Federal Register** notifying the public that EPA has responded in writing to the commenters and explaining how the public may obtain a copy of EPA's responses.

Administrative Requirements

A. What Are the Administrative Requirements for This Action?

Under Executive Order 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review" (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993), this final approval is not a "significant regulatory action" and therefore is not subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget. For this reason, this action is also not subject to Executive Order 13211, "Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use" (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001). This action merely approves state law as meeting federal requirements and imposes no additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. Accordingly, the Administrator certifies that this final approval will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). Because this rule approves pre-existing requirements under state law and does not impose any additional enforceable duty beyond that required by state law, it does not contain an unfunded mandate nor does it significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-4).

This rule also does not have tribal implications because it will not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the federal government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the federal government and Indian tribes, as specified by Executive Order 13175, "Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments" (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000). This rule also does not have federalism implications because it will not have substantial direct effects on the states, on the relationship between the national government and the states, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government, as specified in Executive Order 13132, "Federalism" (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999). This rule merely approves existing requirements under state law, and does not alter the relationship or the distribution of power and responsibilities between the state and the federal government established in the Act.

This final approval is also not subject to Executive Order 13045, "Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks" (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997), because it is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866. This action will not impose any collection of information subject to the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, other than those previously approved and assigned OMB control number 2060-0243. For additional information concerning these requirements, see 40 CFR part 70. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (NTTA), 15 U.S.C. 272 note, requires federal agencies to use technical standards that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus to carry out policy objectives, so long as such standards are not inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impracticable. In reviewing state operating permit programs submitted pursuant to title V of the Act, EPA will approve state programs provided that they meet the requirements of the Act and EPA's regulations codified at 40 CFR part 70. Absent a prior existing requirement for the state to use voluntary consensus standards, EPA has no authority to disapprove a state operating permit program for failure to

use such standards, and it would thus be inconsistent with applicable law for EPA to use voluntary consensus standards in place of a state program that otherwise satisfies the provisions of the Act. Therefore, the requirements of section 12(d) of the NTTA do not apply.

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. The EPA will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. A major rule cannot take effect until 60 days after it is published in the **Federal Register**. This action is not a "major rule" as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2). This rule will be effective November 30, 2001.

Under section 307(b)(1) of the Act, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by February 4, 2002. Filing a petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this rule for the purposes of judicial review nor does it extend the time within which a petition for judicial review may be filed, and shall not postpone the effectiveness of such rule or action. This action may not be challenged later in proceedings to enforce its requirements. (See section 307(b)(2) of the Act.)

B. What Is the Effective Date of EPA's Full Approval of Michigan's Title V Program?

The EPA's approval of Michigan's title V program is effective on November 30, 2001. Pursuant to section 502(h) of the Act, the effective date of a permitting program approved under title V is the date of approval by the Administrator or her delegatee. Furthermore, the good cause exception under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) allows EPA to make the full approval of the state's program immediately effective. In relevant part, the APA provides that publication of "a substantive rule shall be made not less than 30 days before its effective date, except—* * * (3) as otherwise provided by the agency for good cause found and published with the rule." 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3). Section 553(b)(3)(B) of the APA provides that good cause may

be supported by an agency determination that a delay in the effective date is impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest. The EPA finds that it is necessary and in the public interest to make this action effective sooner than 30 days following publication. In this case, EPA believes that it is in the public interest for the program to take effect before December 1, 2001. The EPA's interim approval of Michigan's prior program expires on December 1, 2001. In the absence of this full approval of Michigan's amended program taking effect on November 30, the federal program under 40 CFR part 71 would automatically take effect in Michigan and would remain in place until the effective date of the fully-approved state program. The EPA believes it is in the public interest for sources, the public and Michigan to avoid any gap in coverage of the state program, as such a gap could cause confusion regarding permitting obligations. Furthermore, a delay in the effective date is unnecessary because MDEQ has been administering the title V permit program for nearly five years under an interim approval. Through this action, EPA is approving a few revisions to the existing and currently operational program. The change from the interim approved program which substantially met the part 70 requirements, to the fully approved program is relatively minor, in particular if compared to the changes between a state-established and administered program and the federal program.

C. What Is the Scope of EPA's Full Approval?

In Michigan's final interim approval (62 FR 1387, January 10, 1997), EPA did not approve the state's program in Indian country. Similarly, this final full approval, which only addresses the state's interim approval corrections, also does not approve Michigan's operating permit program in Indian country. To date, no tribal government in Michigan has applied to EPA for approval to administer a title V program in Indian country within the state. The EPA regulations at 40 CFR part 49 govern how eligible Indian tribes may seek approval from EPA to implement a title V program on Indian reservations and in non-reservation areas over which the tribe has jurisdiction. The EPA's part 71 regulations govern the issuance of federal operating permits in Indian country. The EPA's authority to issue permits in Indian country was challenged in *Michigan v. EPA*, (D.C. Cir. No. 99-1151). On October 30, 2001, the court issued its decision in the case,

vacating a provision that would have allowed EPA to treat areas over which EPA determines there is a question regarding the area's status as if it is Indian country, and remanding to EPA for further proceedings. The EPA will respond to the court's remand and explain EPA's approach for further implementation of part 71 in Indian country in a future action.

List of Subjects in Part 70

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Air pollution control, Intergovernmental relations, Operating permits, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Dated: November 27, 2001.

Thomas V. Skinner,

Regional Administrator, Region V.

40 CFR part 70 is amended as follows:

PART 70—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 70 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

2. Appendix A to part 70 is amended by adding paragraph (a)(3) to the entry for Michigan to read as follows:

Appendix A to Part 70—Approval Status of State and Local Operating Permits Programs

* * * * *

Michigan

(a) * * *

(3) Department of Environmental Quality: interim approval corrections submitted on June 1, 2001 and September 20, 2001; submittals adequately address the conditions of the interim approval which expires on December 1, 2001. Based on these corrections, Michigan is hereby granted final full approval effective on November 30, 2001.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 70

[**WI**; **FRL-7111-8**]

Clean Air Act Final Full Approval of Operating Permit Program; Wisconsin

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final Rule.